



THE TOKEN HUNTER

A Publication of the

National Utah Token Society

Vol. 8, No. 9
Sept., 1989



Dedicated to Collecting, Recording, and Preserving Medals and Tokens

Officers

Pres.	Byron Elfors	1-884-6145
V.P.		
Treas.	Deb Sornsen	572-1795
Sec.	Bill Turpela	1-884-5595
Wagon-	Greg Manos	537-1717 ext. 293
Masters	Eric Jameson	582-6461
	Don Sornsen	572-1795
Editor	Norm Johnson	561-5300

Next Meeting

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Raffle

Promptness 1943-S Walker

P Duncan, Kearns Bldg, Salt Lake/2 1/2 cents
(SLC) Brannings Chile Parlor/2 1/2 cents
" Cozy Corner, 700 W. 2nd So./10 cents
" Fisher Dairy, Salt Lake City
" Frumkins 135 So. Main,.../12 1/2 cigar
Ward's Dairy, St. George, Utah/1 quart
2 Peso Mexican Gold

Next Meeting

The next club meeting will be held Thursday, September 28, at 7:15p.m. at the Redwood Multi Purpose Center, 3100 So. Redwood Road. The speaker will be author George Thompson. It will be a great meeting. Don't miss it.

Token Hunter Notes

This issue we go down south for a very personal look at the history of the "show gold" tokens of Hurricane, Utah. Also, there is a nice article on the club's trip to Jacob City/Gisborn. Thanks to the officers who have supplied material for the newsletter.

The editor would like to thank expert screener Bill Turpela for a fun day of treasure hunting a week or so ago. I was fascinated by Bill's sense of where to screen. In one place that I'd never have thought to try, Bill said, "I think there's something here." It wasn't a great Tooele county token that we found, but a nice 1897 Liberty nickel did appear on the screen. We had fun, and it was very educational for me. Next time we hope to find some tokens.

I can't report on "membership" per se, because that's not my responsibility, but I can tell you that (with the help of Mark and Christian at Bob Campbell's shop) I am sending 83 newsletters to people in 10 states. That shows strong interest in Utah trade tokens. We ought to try to carry a membership of 100 into the new year. Now is the best time to sign up, since memberships received in the last quarter of a year are good for the next year as well.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The club picnic at Fairmont Park was really enjoyable. The weather even cooperated after being wet and cool the day before. We had a good turn out, but I think that the previous days weather kept some members away.

The speaker this month is Mr. George Thompson, author of "Some Dreams Die", "Lost Treasures on the Old Spanish Trail", and co-author of "Treasure Mountain Home". George's subject will be about his new book on stagecoaches.

Norm Johnson would like to see more articles for the Token Hunter. We don't realize what a good job Norm does in getting our newsletter out. The UNS newsletter which used to be as large as ours, is down to one page. There isn't much information on one page. Give Norm your support by writing articles on your finds and interests or interesting articles you've read somewhere else. A good newsletter keeps the club alive.

Nominations for next years officers and board members will be in October. Elections will be in November. Those interested in being nominated for a club position, please contact me or one of the other officers. It's a good feeling being involved in the planning and preparation for club meetings and outings. The dictionary definition of a volunteer, is one who gives his services of his own free will. BE A VOLUNTEER - tell us you want to be one of the officers next year.

It was nice to see Debbie Sornsen looking so good and feeling well again at the club picnic. Welcome back Deb.

Byron

Bill's Bull

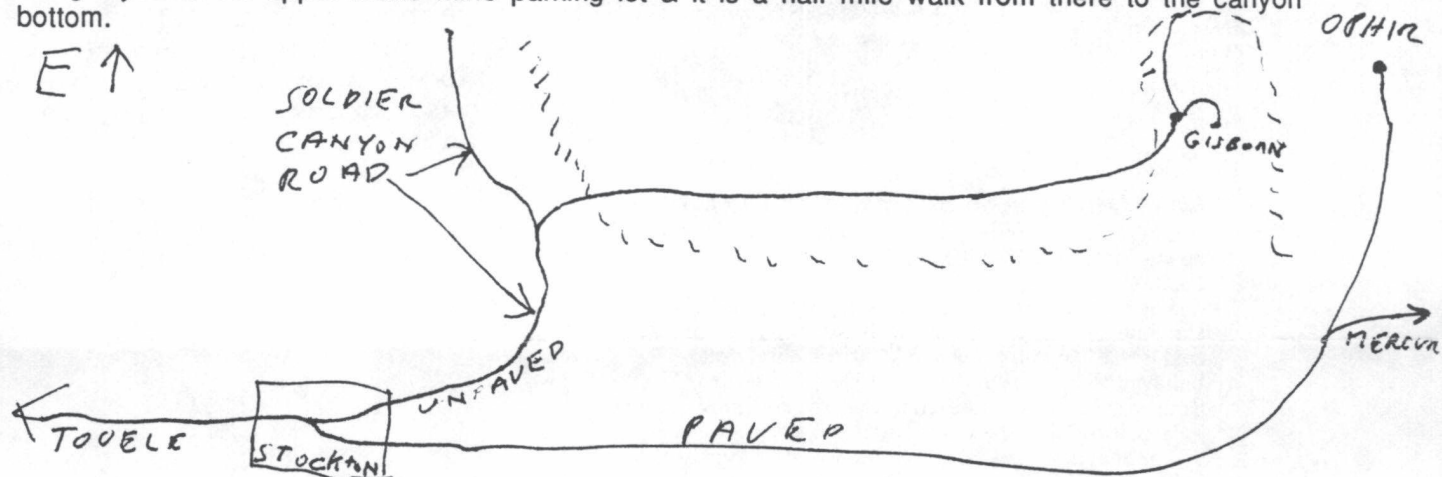
I don't have much to say or report this month. I did go on a few fun and enjoyable trips. I didn't find much of anything, but that's ok. I did get our club editor out, and got him dirty and sunburned. Next time, Norm, I hope we find more. I do have one more thing for club members. They need to start thinking about serving as officers in 1990. We'll have nominations at the October meeting and vote in November. Keep this in mind. Think about being an officer next year. We need some new blood and some new ideas.

See you at the meeting, Bill

Trip to JACOB CITY - GISBORN

OCTOBER 7 (Sat) & 8 (Sun)

The last club trip of the year will be to the ghost towns of Jacob City and Gisborn in early October (Sat-Sun, Oct. 7-8). It is really one ghost town despite the two names. Jacob City was the original town settled in 1865 and later abandoned and now partly covered by the dump of the Hidden Treasure mine. Gisborn is the name of the town (& post office) that was built up after the turn of the century to serve the resurgent mining industry. This is the second time that the club has gone to this town high above Rush Valley in the fall. The colors should be beautiful at this time of year so bring your camera. We will be leaving at 9:00 Saturday from the parking lot of the Redwood Multipurpose Center (3100 So. Redwood Rd.), and should arrive in the ghost town 5 miles to the south of Stockton about 1 hour later. **IMPORTANT:** if you have not been to Gisborn before, it is recommended that you go with the group as the roads out of Stockton are not marked. It is also recommended that you have a 4WD vehicle to get to all the locations. A regular passenger car will get you to the upper Mono mine parking lot & it is a half mile walk from there to the canyon bottom.



Jacob City/Gisborn, Utah

The mines at the head of Dry Canyon were discovered by Gen. Conner's prospector-troups in 1865 following the discoveries around Stockton. Jacob City was laid out in the bottom of the gulch straight down from the Hidden Treasure mine and near the Mono and Kearsarge mines, and prospered up to the silver price collapse of 1893. By the 1870's, it had a population of over 300, but never grew to a very big size because of the steepness of the terrain. The Hidden Treasure was the biggest mine in the district. It's ore outcrop was first discovered over the ridge to the south on the Ophir side of the mountain. As the ore vein dipped north, tunnels were driven from the Dry Canyon side of the mountain, with the final main haulage tunnel (the one with the big dump & ore bins in the bottom of the canyon) burying part of the Jacob City townsite in the 1920's. As newer milling methods were developed, mining again resumed and new boarding houses & mine buildings were built. As the Hidden Treasure lower tunnel buried the original townsite, the new buildings were given the name Gisborn, after the name of the early mine owner who built the original toll road from Stockton to Gisborn across the face of the mountain. It is this road that is now used for access. The mining activity lasted up to the early 60s before all work was finally abandoned, and it is this development period that is visible, nothing being left from the 1870s Jacob City era. At the old Mono dump, the road forks, the right hand fork going down to Gisborn and the left hand fork going further up to the top of the canyon & over to the Ophir side. The output of the mines was several million dollars at the old prices, with the main output being silver-lead ore with some copper, gold and zinc. Most of the property is owned by Sharon Steel & is going thru bankruptcy proceedings, so it is unlikely that there will be any more development in the near future.

Utah



Club Medal Advertisement

This ad, which appeared in the September 19, 1989, edition of Numismatic News is likely to generate a good deal of interest for this year's club medal. If you haven't bought one you should do it soon. The silver medal was struck in a limited edition.

First Utah token depicted on metal

Utah's first self-identified territorial token is featured on the National Utah Token Society's club medal for 1989.

The medal shows the token along with an outline of the Southern Hotel, issuers of the token. The original token was "good for one drink" at the hotel and is believed to have been issued between 1883-1884. The Southern Hotel was located in the silver-mining town of Frisco, located in the Utah Territory.

The reverse of medal shows the society's logo.

The medal is available in silver at \$20, postpaid, in an issue of 100 and in brass at \$5, postpaid.

To order write to the society at 1123 E. 2100 S., Salt Lake City, Utah 84106.

Notice

Club member Phil Lavorgna has been elected as the national president of the American Vecturist Association. This is quite an honor. Congratulations Phil.

Token Hunter editor Norm Johnson has published an article in the current Utah Historical Quarterly entitled "Mormon and Utah Holographic Scrip."

UNS COIN SHOW

Please note that the annual UNS coin show will be held Sept. 29, 30 and Oct. 1 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday and from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. NUTS members have always been enthusiastic supporters of the exhibit portion of the UNS show. Let's do it again this year and see how many first class displays we can enter. For exhibit information contact club members and UNS exhibit chairman John Blaylock at 1-782-7455.



26ST ANNUAL
UTAH



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Salt Palace—Salt Lake City
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Sunday 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

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THE STAR THEATRE

Mrs. Lea Wadsworth
Hurricane, Utah
December 31st, 1986

I'm Lea Wadsworth. I live at Hurricane and I got into the theatre business not by my own choice.

The theatre was built by Charles B. Petty originally. He is the Ford Petty company in Sugarhouse. He moved from here to Salt Lake. He run silent pictures, of course, and it wasn't really that long ago. After he left, John Judd from LaVerkin tried to run the theatre.

In 1933 and '34, my husband was in the show business in St. George. At that time, it was the depression and there was three families trying to live out of it. Gene, my husband, was single so he came over here and rented the building. For his theatre equipment he used a portable picture machine. There was two of them. He had sound on the pictures, or on his equipment, so that's how he got over here. That's what he did for a living until he died in 1960. That left me with the show and I just didn't know anything else to do. I had six children to support and take care of. So, I had to learn show business the hard way.

On September 3rd of 1978 I lost my identity. I'm not the "showhouse lady" anymore. This ended an institution, closing a theatre in Hurricane that Gene had operated since 1932.

After his death in 1960, I had to learn show business the hard way. I had one son on a mission and four more children needing to be sent to school. I didn't know what anyone would pay me for doing, and I knew it

was my responsibility to provide for my family, so I run the show for sixteen and a half years alone. Then my oldest son run it for a year and a half, then he decided he couldn't support his family on it. No one of my children wanted it, so I just quit.

The business was fascinating, but not without plenty of problems. A lot of friends were made at the theatre. Some people thought the show was no less than a necessary evil. One sweet little old lady that moved into town asked me what I used for sound in my theatre. She hadn't been to a show since sound was on film. One film was entitled "This Property Condemned" so some of my townspeople thought that the building was in such poor repair and condition that I was being forced to close.

In the years that I run the show alone, I roofed the building, back in 1971; bought reconditioned picture heads, a new oil furnace to heat the building, with the heat on the floor, and I kept adding rebuilt seats-- that was all the theatre could afford. Maybe I was too cautious, but I only put back into the show as it would afford things. Yet, some people were so free with their comments, like "Hurricane should have a better theatre."

When we decorated the entrance with some wallpaper framed in a tiny quarter-round frame, one teenage girl said, "It's about time you did something to the old building before it falls down." Another comment was how pretty the rug was, red with a big, grey leaf in it, how pretty this was. I told her it had been down for years and the only one we had there. "Oh," she said, "it must have been too dirty to see how pretty it was."

The theatre business was never big. We just had to live on what it made. There were always trends. Some pictures were not worth running. Sometimes, week after week, we didn't even pay current expenses. Since

the ratings were put on films, it surely meant bad business for small towns. Then film rental, supplies, and advertising went out of sight. We couldn't raise prices high enough to end up with any profit.

Gene had problems too, trying to make the business go. In the thirties, a dollar was just hard to come by. Gene printed some show scrip, "show gold" the villagers called it. Gene paid men with it for anyone who would work for it, either farm work or on the old stake chapel (that was the big white one that was up here on the corner that was being built). He took wood for show tickets and at that time we heated the show with two wood stoves. Some teenagers used to take grain out of Gene's old bin and trade it in for show tickets. Many church organizations, stake primaries, seventies and PTA's sponsored shows on a percent of the take after expenses. They would do these for fund-raisers. There were some school matinees run during the school months. Finally, our building was too small to hold the high school kids. Some days it took two shows to accomodate the school to see it all. I was glad when the school decided no more school activities away from the school. The Church decided no more benefit shows.

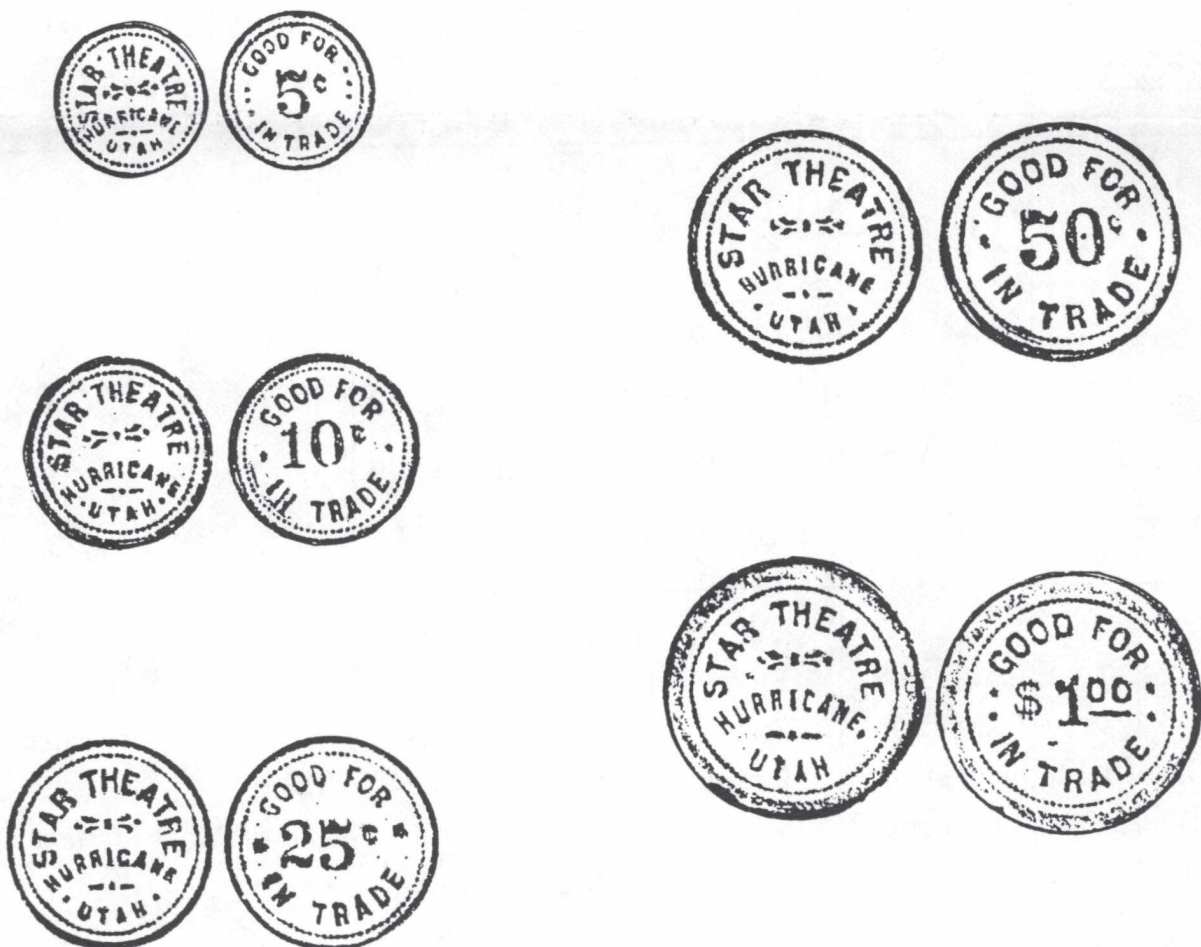
It was hard to sit in Church and listen to speakers tell about shows. This is one of the remarks: "That man that sells those tickets is just as bad as the person who buys on Sunday." My ward bishop at that time just advised, "Don't go to shows." Yet, the Church took my donations, tithing and etc. How did they think I got my money to pay these donations and things, and to send my boys on missions if it weren't show money?

The high school boys that worked for us over the years were surely appreciated for their devotion and dedication because they missed a lot of school activities and summer recreation.

My family were more appreciated than anyone. Sometimes they must

come work if no one else showed up for the job. They all took their turn at cleaning the show. Some months I couldn't have paid a janitor if one had been hired. My children were not paid only as a candyseller or operator on the machines. They all sometime or another wish they didn't have a mother like me. I never saw much of the evening beauties because I went to the show and sat in the little box office. When the new Dixie State Bank was built across the street it made me feel very closed in. I couldn't see down the street. All I could see was the few hot-rodders that swished off the highway to play "Ring around the Bank."

Stout Home Center bought the show finally to enlarge their business.



N. U. T. S. Calendar 1989

APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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30														24-25 N.U.T.S. token show						
JULY							AUG							SEPT						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
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30	31																			
OCT							* NOV							* DEC						
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29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
														31						

N. U. T. S. TRIPS

APRIL 29-30 (sat-sun)	Fish Springs	8:45	Eric	
MAY 27-28-29 (sat-mon)	Frisco	8:45	Eric	Memorial Day
JUNE 10-11 (sat-sun)	Eureka-Tinitc	9:00	Don	
JULY 22-23-24 (sat-mon)	Morhland	8:45	Don&Eric	Pioneer Day
AUG 5 (sat)	Alta Ski Area	8:45	Greg	
AUG 12 (sat)	Snow Basin	8:45	Greg	
SEPT 2-3-4 (sat-mon)	Goldfield, Nev.	8:15	Greg	Labor Day
OCT 7-8 (sat-sun)	Gisbourne	9:00	Eric	

* A meeting date for November, and the Christmas dinner date in December, will be set later.

N. U. T. S. MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$12.50

☐ SINGLE MEMBERSHIP \$7.50



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Salt Lake City, Ut. 84106

(or copy it)
Clip this, fill it out, and send it with your dues (and marked ballot) to 1123 Ea. 2100 So., SLC, Utah 84106. If you pay your 1989 dues on or before Dec. 29 and you will be assured 1988 amounts. Dues may go up in 1989.

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OMAHA, NEBRASKA

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George Hosek
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Omaha, NE 68112
(402) 465-1905

Location:

Ramada Inn Airport
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Omaha, NE 68110

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